

**Amendment to the Claims**

Please amend claims 6-8 and 13-15 and add new claims 16-20 as shown below.

1. (Original) A method for inspecting fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in a body, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in saliva.
2. (Original) A method for inspecting migration of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors contained in ingested health supplements, drugs or foods into a body, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in saliva.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the inspecting is conducted on the basis of concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in saliva of subjects before ingestion of the health supplements, drugs or foods, or the mean concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in saliva of a control group ingesting no health supplements, drugs or foods.
4. (Original) A method for inspecting effect or action of an administered therapeutic agent on biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors, comprising analyzing fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors in saliva as indicators.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the inspecting is conducted on the basis of concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in saliva of subjects before taking the therapeutic agent, or the mean concentrations of the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors in saliva of a control group with no taken therapeutic agent.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing suitability of ingestion or an intake of health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors, wherein the method uses a method according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~.
7. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing suitability of administration or a dosage of a therapeutic agent having effect or action on biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors, wherein the method uses a method according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~.
8. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 7, wherein saliva is parotid saliva.
9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the parotid saliva is collected using a saliva collecting tool which collects parotid saliva selectively and quantitatively.
10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the saliva collecting tool has (a) a collection part comprising an absorber for absorbing saliva irreversibly and (b) a quantification part for quantifying the amount of saliva collected to the absorber.
11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the saliva collecting tool has further a storage container part for holding a saliva preservative solution in which the absorber with the absorbed saliva is dipped to preserve.
12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the saliva preservative solution is a water-soluble organic solvent.
13. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 12, comprising:  
(a) a process for extracting the collected saliva, the absorber with the absorbed saliva, and/or the preservative solution with the preserved absorber with a water-soluble organic

- solvent, a hydrocarbon base organic solvent, or a mixture of isopropanol and ethyl acetate,
- (b) a process for using the extract as an analysis sample to separate the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors by high-performance liquid chromatography, and
- (c) a process for detecting the separated fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors.
14. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1 to 13, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors are at least one substance selected from a group consisting of CoQ10, lycopene,  $\beta$ -carotene and tocopherol.
15. (Currently Amended) A method for screening drugs or health supplements, wherein the method uses a method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 14~~.
16. (New) A method for assessing suitability of ingestion or an intake of health supplements, drugs or foods comprising fat-soluble vitamins and/or fat-soluble food factors, wherein the method uses a method according to claim 3.
17. (New) A method for assessing suitability of administration or a dosage of a therapeutic agent having effect or action on biosynthesis and metabolism of fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors, wherein the method uses a method according to claim 5.
18. (New) The method according to claim 12, comprising:
- (a) a process for extracting the collected saliva, the absorber with the absorbed saliva, and/or the preservative solution with the preserved absorber with a water-soluble organic

- solvent, a hydrocarbon base organic solvent, or a mixture of isopropanol and ethyl acetate,
- (b) a process for using the extract as an analysis sample to separate the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors by high-performance liquid chromatography, and
- (c) a process for detecting the separated fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors.
19. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the fat-soluble vitamins and/or the fat-soluble food factors are at least one substance selected from a group consisting of CoQ10, lycopene,  $\beta$ -carotene and tocopherol.
20. (New) A method for screening drugs or health supplements, wherein the method uses the method according to claim 14.